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Aiken, S. C., (H. W. Ravenel); Southern N. J., and Delaware, (W. M. Canby,) vide JUNE BULLETIN.

Cyperus erythrorrhizos, Muhl.—This Western species was found at Wading River, Suffolk Co., L. I., in 1872, by Messrs. E. S. Miller and Leggett, making a very remarkable addition to its geographical range. Dr. Torrey, in his "Catalogue of Plants within 30 miles of New York City," records it as common in wet meadows; this assertion certainly does not hold true now, the nearest locality for the plant being in Pennsylvania. Perhaps the statement in the Catalogue is meant to apply to *C. erythrorrhizos*, Torrey, which is *C. Michauxianus*, Schultes, and is found frequently around New York.

Cyperus dentatus, Torr.—In the State Flora, Dr. Torrey describes this species as having the "rhachilla naked." Gray's Manual however, says "axis wing-margined." I have a large number of specimens of the plant from different localities, and in all of them, the axes of the spikes are naked. Have we two forms of the species, or is the Manual at fault?

§ 346. **Self-Defence in Plants**.—This subject has been studied by Prof. Kerner of late, but Vergil seems to have thought about it before the Christian era. He is foretelling a return of the golden age, and uses this remarkable expression, ECLOG. IV. 28.

Molli paulatim campus flavescet arista,

where *molli* has puzzled commentators. Ladewig interprets it rightly, "with smooth ears, since they will have no more need of the sharp awns for protection against the birds which will then become harmless." Martyn takes the same view, and quotes Cicero as thus accounting for the beard of wheat. *Paulatim* is probably only put in to help paint the grain gradually growing golden under the summer sun; it can hardly hint at the gradual change of evolution, and yet Vergil had, with the Epicurean School, speculated much on kindred subjects.

§ 347. **Vitis**.—It is not yet too late in the season to recall to collectors Dr. Engelmänn's request for contributions throwing light on the limits especially of *V. cordifolia* and *V. riparia*. On pp. 233-4, and 310-11 of the current volume of the BULLETIN he pointed out clearly the distinctions; he has since told us that *V. riparia* may also be known by the finer fibres of the shreds of the separating bark. It is desirable to learn how far south and east *riparia* reaches, how far north and west *cordifolia*. For the distinctions the notes referred to should be studied, but we may briefly state as a reminder, that *riparia* has a bright, deep green leaf (above) with a truncate sinus, stipules longer, with the diaphragm of the nodes $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ line thick, and fruits earlier; *cordifolia* has a dull, paler surface, acute sinus, rounded short stipules, with diaphragm interrupting the medullary tissue in the last year's cane $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 line thick, and a stronger fragrance to the leaves.

Terms—One Dollar per annum beginning with the January number. For the Botanical Directory 40 cents; three copies for one dollar, or twelve for three dollars. Vols. I.-V., with index, and photograph of Dr. Torrey, \$3.75. Copies of Constitution and By-Laws of the Club, 25 cents. Address, WM. H. LEGGETT, 54, East 81st Street, New York. Money Orders on Station K, N. Y. All subscriptions or orders filled only on receipt of the money.

The Club meets regularly the second Tuesday of the month in the Herbarium, Columbia College at 7:30 P. M. Botanists are invited to attend. DR. THURBER, the President of the Club may be found at 245 Broadway.